



News Notes

TAX Center cancels appointments – The Hickam Tax Center will no longer be taking appointments starting Monday due to financial constraints and a decrease in volunteer participation. Services will be provided on a walk-in basis to active duty members, Reserve and Guard and their families only. The new Tax Center Hours are 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Additionally, the Tax Center will no longer prepare any Schedule C, D or Es. This means that if you have any rental properties, stock transactions, or capital gains or losses, the Tax Center cannot prepare your taxes. We apologize for the inconvenience these changes may cause. Call the Tax Center at 448-0712 for a listing of additional island-wide free VITA Tax Assistance sites, including other military installations. Filers may also access <http://www.military-onesource.com> to use a free version of TurboTax.

Amazing Race participants – Because of inclement weather the Amazing Race at Bellows AFS has been rescheduled for May 8.

Race organizers said this may cause team rosters to change and request any updates to rosters by calling 259-4112.

OPSEC Day – The Annual OPSEC day will be held at the Memorial Theatre with two sessions on Wednesday and Thursday starting at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Attendance at the annual OPSEC training will count toward the annual training requirement. Members must bring I.D. cards to receive credit.

No pets on baseball fields – No pets are permitted in the youth fields located behind the Fitness Center, fields 1 & 2 across from Burger King, Fields 8 – 10, Honeymoon beach and the Flier Field. The fields are only for recreational activity. The no pet policy is enforced through AFI 48-104, paragraph 3.4, no dogs or cats are permitted to enter the playing fields, picnic areas, beach areas or other recreational areas at any time.

SARC training – Sexual Assault Response Program

See NOTES, A8

In this week's Kukini



Pacific Aviation Museum B1

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More rain in forecast?

By Kirsten Tacker

Kukini Photojournalist

Even though the Kona Lows can explain the continuous rainfall hovering over the island, rain is a secret of paradise never to appear on the brochures for Hawaii.

Kona Lows form in November through April and help provide the lush vegetation we know as paradise.

“A Kona Low is a stationary low pressure system and if it forms up to the east side of the island we’re dry,” said Senior Airmen Thomas Stevens, 17th Operation Weather Squadron. “If it forms to the west it brings the moisture in and taps into subtropical moisture bringing continuous showers and thunderstorms.”

For those that live on the east side of the island they have to contend with a different reason it rains all the time.

“The trade winds which generally bring in the nice warm air off the ocean breeze force moisture up against the side of the mountain,” said Airmen Stevens. “It can only go up so high before it has to rain out, that’s why they get the rain on that side of the island.”

A Kona Low anchoring over the west side of the island is the weather event that usually sparks off tor-



Photo by Tech Sgt. Robert Burgess

A driver plows through a pool of water Sunday on O’Malley Blvd. Heavy rains continue to soak the state and the weather forecast for the weekend calls for more of the same. The total rainfall for March 2006 at Hickam was 12.1 inches of rain as of Wednesday. The record rainfall for March was set in 1951, 20.79 inches.

nadoes, water spouts and hail storms. On Oahu it is not that unusual to get this kind of rain.

“It just hasn’t been seen in

approximately nine years, that year mark people tend to forget they’ve had this kind of rain in the month of March,” said Airmen Stevens. “Once it is past the five

things.”

See RAIN, A7

MPF functions go cyber

By Tech. Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo
Air Force Print News

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii (AFPN) – The Military Personnel Flight at Hickam will be moving some of its functions today to the online Air Force virtual MPF.

The Air Force is a service that thrives on technology. Airmen continually strive to improve processes through exploitation of technology. Two years ago the Air Force migrated several of its personnel programs to the Internet allowing Airmen to update emergency contact and personal information and to apply for assignments online.

“People do a lot of things right now via the internet like Ticketmaster and USAA, so this is just one more way the Air Force is taking hold of technology and moving forward to make things a lot better and to save a lot of our time,” said Capt. Nicholl Dial, Military Personnel Flight commander.

At the end of March the Air Force MPFs will no longer handle duty history requests, retraining and retirement

issues, appeals to evaluations and corrections to military records. Instead Airmen will use the online service.

“The member has more control over their career. They have more control over their personnel record and instead of coming to a middleman they can talk to someone at AFPC,” said Captain Dial.

This doesn’t mean that the MPF will be going away. There will be a contact center for Airmen who can call 24/7 to get the help they need. Airmen will still be able to get help from personnel specialist who will guide them through the process and explain it to them.

The conversion is part of a new initiative called Personnel Services Delivery Transformation which is being implemented in phases and will remove all but a few key functions from the hands of MPF and will be rolled out during the next two years.

Air Force leaders plan to eventually have about 85 percent of traditional MPF services online. The slow phased change will be complete around December 2007.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo

Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Ramos updates data verifications for promotions at the Military Personnel Flight office at Hickam, March 17. More functions of the MPF will be going to online services beginning today.

Team Hickam 2006 AFAF goal reached

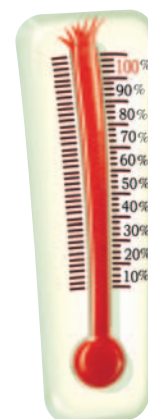
Entering into the fifth week of the Air Force Assistance Fund (AFAF) Campaign, Team Hickam broke its 2006 goal of \$88,883 with two weeks left in the drive.

To date, Hickam AFB has contributed a total of \$91,602. This continues the precedence set by the goal-breaking CFC campaign that ended late last year. Currently Hickam is one of two bases in PACAF that have exceeded their base goals in 2006.

“I think this is great ... it’s been a long time since we’ve met our (AFAF) goal,” said Maria Barrows, director of the Airmen and Family Readiness Center. “Many families will benefit from the generosity of our Airmen.”

The Airmen and Family Readiness Center is the local focal point for Air Force Aid distributions. Last year the base used over \$190,000 in aid and helped numerous

See AFAF, A6



Team Hickam surpassed the 100 percent goal as of Wednesday.

Free financial education forum April 12

SaveAndInvest.org

A free financial education forum is April 12 from 930 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Hawaii Convention Center. This event is presented by the NASD Investor Education Foundation, and with co-sponsor Senator Daniel Akaka.

The NASD Investor Education Foundation was launched Feb. 18 and introduced SaveAndInvest.org, a comprehensive campaign to help service members manage their money with confidence. The campaign was officially launched at an event on Capitol Hill and is receiving broad-

based support from members of Congress, the Department of Defense and the SEC.

The Foundation created the SaveAndInvest.org campaign with \$6.8 million from the \$12 million fine that NASD assessed First Command Financial Planning, Inc., in December 2004. NASD found that its representatives used misleading sales practices when selling products called systematic investment plans – which

carried first-year sales charges of 50 percent – to military personnel

The forum affords participants the opportunity to learn resources and tools on saving and investing, investor protections and education, and where to turn for advice. The financial seminars include Smart Saving and Investing: Avoid the predatory Loan Trap; Mutual Funds, 529 Plans, and More; Smart Saving for Retirement; and What to

Look for in an Investment Advisor. The event is open to active duty military members, retirees, DoD/DHS civilian employees and their families.

A bus service will be provided with pick-up and drop-off points at the Airman and Family Readiness Flight, Bldg. 1105. Individuals interested in attending can register online at <http://www.save-andinvest.org/> by clicking on the event button or call toll-free 1-866-862-0110. For more information, contact the Airman and Family Readiness Flight at 449-0300

Spring cleaning

By Col. Bill “Goose” Changose
15th Airlift Wing commander

The tropical island of Oahu provides an enviable work and living environment for Team Hickam personnel and their families. The beautiful surroundings are matched only by the pride that we take in maintaining the appearance of our base. Hickam stands as a visual symbol of the superior work being done by PACAF Airmen. We have a lot to be proud of – your hard work not only keeps our base beautiful but keeps us on the leading edge of readiness as we move into the future.

Because winter in Hawaii is the envy of the world, some of us may not have noticed that we have officially entered the spring season. Just as we’ll do spring cleaning in our homes and offices, it’s a great time to do spring cleaning in our procedures and processes. Secretary Wynne’s Air Force Smart Ops 21 message is an emphasis item and now is a great time to start. I’d like each of us to also take a look at what we do in the workplace. Are there ways



Col. Bill “Goose” Changose

Each month I have the opportunity to talk with Hickam newcomers and I encourage each of them to share ideas and perspectives – those discussions can be gold nuggets of opportunity. Leaders at all levels need to talk to your people and be receptive to change.

We’ve just started a new program available to everyone on Hickam. If you see something wrong, or a way to improve the base and your idea leads to a better way to serve Team Hickam, call the Commander Action Line and we’ll give you a Services coupon book for your efforts. If you use every coupon you have the potential to save over \$100 at services venues. That’s quite a bit of money and shows how serious

that we can accomplish the mission more efficiently and just as effectively? If so, let me know - I’m listening.

we are in looking for good ideas. We don’t promise that every suggestion will be implemented, but at least you’ll know you were heard and we appreciate your inputs.

Beyond the good suggestions I’d ask each of you to go the next step. Work to implement the good ideas. This is truly the hardest part, but it’s the part that pays the biggest dividends in the end. In every organization there are people who have a knack for making innovations happen, find them and put them to work, you’ll be proud of them.

We have accomplished a lot and have much to be proud of. I appreciate and value how each member of Team Hickam contributes to the mission and takes pride in taking care of our resources and each other. Take a look around and enjoy the environment that you have helped create and then take a moment to listen. What fresh and innovative idea have you been waiting to share? I look forward to hearing those ideas and action plans.

Have a great weekend, Sky Warriors, and think before you act.

Hickam’s newest C-17, #4, arrives April 8

Lt. Col. Christopher Davis
535th Airlift Squadron commander

Hardly sounds newsworthy when stacked up against all the other events that occur at Hickam AFB every day but the arrival of our next C-17 marks another milestone, not only for the 15th Operations Group, but for Team Hickam as well.

For the last few years everyone has been working incredibly hard to set up all the support and infrastructure required to execute our airlift mission. Up to this point we have been focused on training and preparation to deploy.

This next C-17 arrival marks the start of the 15th Airlift Wing’s transition to one of execution. Beginning in early April we will pick up regular scheduled taskings from Pacific Air Force’s Air Mobility Division and the 535th Airlift Squadron will become fully engaged in their primary mission of airlifting cargo and equipment to locations throughout the world. I’m guessing some of you are scratching your head and asking; what about the support for the flooding in Kauai, or the relief effort to the Philippines, or the Vietnam repatriation mission, or one of the other missions the 15th AW and 154th Wing have already flown. Sounds like we are already fully operational.

The key difference between these missions and our new milestone in April is that these short notice taskings were requests for support. Neither Operations nor Maintenance are fully manned and we could have turned them back.

We supported them because they were important and this is what we do. All of these missions were launched by composite 15th AW/154th WG maintenance teams

and each mission was manned by aircrew from both the active duty 535th Airlift Squadron and the Hawaii Air National Guard 204th Airlift Squadron. Dedicated professionals across Team Hickam made this possible and it’s a testament to strength of our total force integration.

Beginning in April future taskings from PACAF’s Air Mobility Division will have a different flavor. The 15AW will start making aircraft available to PACAF and the AMD will no longer have to “ask” before tasking an aircraft, they will now have C-17s at their disposal and task accordingly. We will keep back a couple aircraft for required currency and upgrade training but as new aircraft continue to arrive, instead of increasing our training capability, they will increase PACAF’s airlift capability. For a couple months we will have some ability to negotiate mission dates but with every new arrival our commitment to providing airlift will increase exponentially.

The arrival of Hickam Four may not initially sound like big news but it’s another significant step in the Team Hickam’s evolution. All of you share in this achievement. Organizations throughout Team Hickam have stepped up to work hundreds of issues to ensure both aircraft and aircrews were ready to launch. It’s no exaggeration to say we’ve relied on every squadron in the wing and many of the tenant units for some kind of critical support or another. Their can-do, motivated support is the reason we’ve been able to succeed this far and I offer my sincere thanks. I’m confident Team Hickam is ready to tackle this next milestone and aggressively pursue future challenges as we continue to redefine airlift in the Pacific.

Sometimes we forget what it’s about

By Leslie Wheeler
Air Force Dependent

One day while I was outside with my daughter picking up toys and thinking about what to fix for dinner my concentration was broken by a sweet little voice yelling “MOMMY”! To my amazement when I looked up I saw my 2-year-old Emma standing at attention with her tiny hand to her heart. It was at that time I realized that the National Anthem was playing over the loud speaker as it did everyday at 4:30pm. With tears in my eyes I stood with my

hand over my heart as a proud parent and a little ashamed of myself. If my two year old could stop what ever she was doing to pay respect to our country so could I. As I stood there I thought about what being patriotic was and I thought about everyone who has fought and are now fighting for freedom...all it takes is just 60 seconds or so to stop and be thankful for being able to live in a free country. I know that after a long day at work the last thing you want to do on your way home is pull over and wait for a song to play, but take a second and be

thankful that you are able to drive home to your families. Others are no longer around to do that. When you run inside a building so you don’t have to stand out in the hot sun or rain at attention, be thankful you are able to stand. Others would give anything just to stand again. As the song ended and Emma began to play again she didn’t realize that she had impacted her mommy so deeply. So the next time you hear the National Anthem playing on base take a few seconds to be thankful for your freedom and the price people have paid so you can keep it!

Action Line

The Action Line is your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community. I urge you to use the normal chain of command first.

If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander’s Action Line a call. If you would like me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response. I’ll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil.

CHILD CARE

Comment: I am concerned with the lack of available child care here on Hickam. I have come across quite a few people who are left to take leave due to lack of childcare available on base. My concern is also with the home daycare providers who are getting certified to care for kids on base; it seems that too often these care givers are giving our active duty folks short notices about no longer being able to care for their kids. All other military

installations on Oahu are at maximum capacity leaving our working folks with no options. Why are people becoming certified to care for kids if they are not going to be a reliable source for working parent(s), such as giving short notices that they will no longer care for their kid(s) leaving the working parent(s) with no options?

Response: Thank you for allowing me to address your concerns. We understand how important reliable child care is for our Airmen. Family Child Care (FCC) providers, in conjunction with our Child Development Centers (CDCs), offer a valuable service. Unfortunately we do not have as many FCC providers as we would like to meet our demanding child care needs. I assure you, however, that we actively recruit new FCC providers and the number of providers has increased, although minimally, in recent months. Additionally, we are very fortunate to have received funds to enlarge all three CDCs on base significantly increasing our child care capability over the next 1 to 2 years. Equally unfortunate is the fact that from time to time, our FCC providers provide short notices regarding their

inability to care for children (either for short periods or for actual care termination). FCC providers are considered private business and therefore our control over such short notices is limited. We will stress to all providers the hardships resulting from such short notices and hopefully limit such occurrences. When found in difficult situations, parents can call 449-1879 or 448-8231 for alternate child care assistance.

WARRIOR RUN

Comment: I am writing this email concerning the Warrior Run. I totally support the run but there are some issues with the route that is used. For instance, the morning of the run I was leaving to take my child to school at 0730 the runners were running down my street so I had to wait for them to pass by so that I could leave. Once I got to the end of the street there were a couple of people directing traffic, one person tried to redirect me the opposite way that I needed to go, I am guessing they were trying to redirect since there were people walking on the sidewalk and also in the street. I feel if they are walking they should be on the side-

walk and not on the street. But the fact of the matter is that when that person tried to redirect me they would have been directing me right back into the runners that originally blocked my street. This is a big inconvenience for them to be running through housing in the morning knowing that parents do drive there kids to school, not to mention that the front street entrance to Hickam Elementary is blocked so there is not another way to go when you live on streets 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15th. Would there be a way to reroute the run away from the school and housing?

Response: I appreciate your concerns, and apologize for the inconvenience you were caused. At this time I don’t plan on changing the route, however, I will ensure that prior to the next run which is currently scheduled for 7 Apr, that personnel directing traffic are properly briefed on their responsibilities and ensure traffic delays, especially for parents of students attending Hickam Elementary are kept to an absolute minimum. In addition residents will be notified in advance when the runs are scheduled so they can adjust their routine accordingly.

Hickam Diamond Tips



Hairstyles

Males are now allowed to cleanly shave their heads or wear military “high-and-tight” haircuts. Females are not allowed to do either of these. Additionally, hairstyles must allow for proper wear and fit of headgear.

Source: AFI 36-2903, 15 AW Supplement 1
Questions? Contact your First Sergeant

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Deadline for copy is noon Thursday for the following Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300 - 500 words in length, and e-mailed to hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil.

Crisis Response lines

Hickam Family Support Center
449-0300
Life Skills Support Center
449-0175
Law Enforcement Desk
449-6373
Base Chaplain
449-1754
Military Family Abuse Shelter
533-7125
SARC Hotline
449-7272

New burial vault at Bellows

By Nicole Clements
15th Civil Engineer Squadron

The 15th Airlift Wing construction of the Hawaiian burial vault at Bellows Air Force Station was completed on January 19, 2006. The burial vault consists of a platform structure where ancient Hawaiian human skeletal remains from Bellows AFS will be re-interred.

According to Valerie Curtis, archaeologist for the wing, "The burial vault at Bellows is similar to the one that already exists on Hickam, which was built in the late 1990's for remains specifically from this installation."

The construction of the Bellows burial vault was performed in two phases. A ground breaking ceremony was held in October 2005 and was conducted by members of Kaiwi Olelo o' Hawai'i are one of six Native Hawaiian organizations (NHO) that have culturally claimed the remains that are being re-interred in the vault. Phase I, was a modern cement vault and construction took place from November 7 to December 19, 2005. Phase II was completed in January of 2006, and consisted of facing the exterior of the structure with traditional stone masonry consisting of dry-stacked pohaku (basalt cobbles). "The finished product emulates existing burial platforms that we see in the archaeological record," said Curtis.

The modern process of reburying ancient Hawaiian remains was generated because of the 1990 Native American Graves



Courtesy photo

The new Hawaiian burial vault at Bellows AFS was constructed in two phases, the process took two years to complete. The modern process of reburying ancient Hawaiian remains was generated

Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) which provides protection for indigenous graves and associated funerary objects. NAGPRA requires federal agencies to work with and consult with NHOs when dealing with discoveries of Native Hawaiian burials on federally owned or controlled land and to turn over all human remains and funerary objects to these groups.

"The consultation and repatriation is a difficult process that takes time, often resulting in project delays and extra costs. However, the 15th AW is

proactive in our approach and has found a way to speed up this process and facilitate good relations with the Native Hawaiian community," said Ms. Curtis. "By constructing a burial vault, the Air Force provides a secure and protected area for the exhumed remains and provides a solution to the dilemma of where to rebury the remains."

Human remains are frequently found at Bellows AFS during digging or trenching construction activities. In the past, these remains were given to the Bishop Museum, but with

through the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) which provides protection for indigenous graves and associated funerary objects.

the passage of NAGPRA, the museum is no longer curating human remains. "The selection of a location for the burial vault was given high priority and entailed considerable time and effort to find a suitable location that the NHOs considered appropriate and that was consistent with the Air Force's land use plan," said Curtis. "Strong dialogue and cooperation between parties resulted in a win-win solution that was satisfying to both parties," added Dennis "Bumpy" Kanahele. Kanahele is the founder of one of the NHOs that has put in a claim for the remains

from Bellows.

The process took 2 years and consisted of numerous site visits, proposed sites for the burial vault, and stakeholder meetings to determine the most appropriate location. "We are very pleased to have reached a consensus that is agreeable to all parties," said Curtis.

"The main thing is that this means closure to a long-standing issue regarding the kupuna iwi," said Mr. Kanahele.

The Bellows burial vault not only solves immediate needs, but was built large enough to entomb future discoveries.

Crime Scene

Shopping

Two Air Force family members were detained by Army Air Force exchange service store detectives for shoplifting. Total cost of stolen merchandise: \$133.

Theft of government property

An Air Force retiree reported someone removed the DD Form 2220, a base registration decal from the windshield of his vehicle.

Vandalism

An Air Force civilian employee notified security forces and reported she discovered obscene graffiti spray painted along the building near her workplace.

Damage to private property

An Air Force family member notified security forces and reported her vehicle was damaged. A report was filed.

Driving under the influence

A Security Forces patrolman was on a routine base patrol when he stopped a vehicle. Upon initial contact, the driver of the vehicle immediately showed signs of being under the influence of an intoxicating substance. Security forces conducted standard field sobriety maneuvers, which the driver subsequently failed.

Vandalism

An Air force civilian employee notified security forces and reported she discovered obscene graffiti spray painted along the walls and Youth Center park bench.

Team Hickam receives positive ESOHCAMP assessment results

By Capt. Bernice Balete
15th Civil Engineer Squadron, environmental engineer

The 15th Airlift Wing hosted the Environmental, Safety, and Occupational Health Compliance Assessment and Management Program external March 20 through March 24.

The assessment outbrief was held last Friday, where summary results were presented and professional performers were recognized. "The ESOHCAMP Team inspection of Hickam was a thorough and professional," said Col. Bill "Goose" Changose, 15th Airlift Wing commander, "This assessment was another example of the Air Force helping itself and the findings should be fixed relatively quickly in-house."

The Pacific Air Forces ESOHCAMP 37-member assessment team, led by Colonel William Wootton, 35th Maintenance Group commander, Misawa Air Base, Japan, spent three and a half days conducting assessments in 27 protocol areas, visiting almost 300 sites (including about 40

“ It is evident Team Hickam is working to promote a safer workplace and environmental stewardship as a normal part of life. ”

ESOH report

hazardous waste Satellite Accumulation Points), reviewing plans and records, and interviewing personnel.

The team spent the rest of the week validating findings and preparing a draft preliminary report. The assessment covered all activities on Hickam, including the Hawaii Air National Guard's 154th Wing and other tenant organizations, as well as outlying geographically-separated units, including Bellows and Mount Kaala Air Force Stations (AFSS). Kokee AFS and Wake

Island Airfield will be assessed later this year.

An excerpt from the draft report states, "Support of ESOH programs by all levels of leadership and the general base population was evident throughout the assessment. No findings were deemed "significant" during the assessment, a clear reflection of the awareness and dedication of the Hickam Team.

"While senior leadership and Environmental Flight emphasis are clear, aggressive implementation is not consistent at the shop and flight level across the base. Hickam AFB has an improving ESOH program that has made major progress in several areas since the last External Assessment in 2003. Overall, Hickam is on on-track for continuous progress that will ensure compliance to applicable ESOH directives, thereby cutting costs and improving operational capability."

The report also identifies deficiencies and provides suggestions to commanders to resolve negative findings. Each finding includes the root cause and statutory/regulatory and

host nation requirements that generated the finding. The ESOHCAMP process goal is to provide wing leadership an effective management tool to focus limited resources in attaining compliance.

Notable is that the base had no significant findings, a decrease in the number of major findings, and twice as many positive findings as the last assessment. The preliminary report included, "It is evident Team Hickam is working to promote a safer workplace and environmental stewardship as a normal part of life, on and off base, and not only during these annual one-week assessments, but throughout the entire year."

Units will have three weeks until April 15 to respond to findings in the draft report. By April 24, those with valid discrepancies must submit a management action plan detailing how they will fix the discrepancies. About two weeks later in late May (which is the team's goal of 60 days after the assessment), a final report will be prepared and briefed to Pacific Air Forces vice commander.

Airman Leadership School class 06-B graduation

By Senior Master Sgt. Tammy Whitney-Rush
Professional Military Education Center Director of Education

The Hickam Professional Military Education Center hosted the graduation banquet for Airman Leadership School Class 06-B Wednesday. More than 290 guests were treated to an entertaining evening highlighted by guest speaker Sergeant Major of the Philippine Air Force, Chief Master Sergeant Cesar Soloria.

Senior Airman Anthony Florentine, from the 324th Intelligence Squadron, garnered top honors as the John L. Levitow Award recipient. Senior Airman Jeremy Dyck, from the PACAF Air Intelligence Squadron, earned the Leadership Award. Senior Airman Daniel Raynes, from the 15th Communications Squadron, earned the Academic Achievement Award and the Distinguished Graduate Award. Other Distinguished Graduates included, Senior Airman Summer Brock, from the 324th Intelligence Squadron, Senior Airman Timothy Scanlin, from the 17th Operational Weather Squadron, Senior Airman Eric Spencer, from the 15th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Senior Airman David Wheeler, from the 352d Information Operations Squadron.

During the class, the students volunteered their off-duty time cleaning, painting and doing general yard work for the Winner's Camp Academy just north of Hawaii Kai. The Winner's Camp Academy is a state-run school for orphans, foster, and at risk children. Additionally, the students participated in the school sponsored Adopt-a-Highway program. Upon graduation from ALS, each student receives nine semester hours of college credit from the Community College of the Air Force. Graduation from ALS completes the first of four levels of Air Force professional military education.

See ALS, A7

Addition to emergency data card

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Airmen must designate one immediate family member as the person authorized to direct disposition (PADD) of their remains should they become a casualty. The PADD designation will become a part of the member’s Record of Emergency Data as required by law. Most Airmen will add their PADD information to their virtual Record of Emergency Data by following the instructions in the Virtual MPF. Personnel

at deployed locations need to contact their personnel support for contingency operations team to update their record. Organizations using the DD Form 93 or the United States Air Force Academy Form 0-143 to record emergency data must ensure Airmen are briefed on this new requirement and designate their PADD in the remarks section. PADD information should include the designated person's name, relationship to member, address with zip code and telephone number.

Records update March 28 – May 22

Airmen, identified by the last digit in their social security number, must update their records by the following dates:

1 – March 28 to April 3

2 – April 4 to 10

3 – April 11 to 14

4 – April 15 to 19

5 – April 20 to 24

6 – April 25 to 28

7 – April 29 to May 3

8 – May 4 to 9

9 – May 10 to 15

0 – May 16 to 22

The PADD will be responsible for the disposition of remains only. The member is still required to designate separately the recipient(s) of any other

benefits and entitlements. For more information or for questions concerning the PADD designation, call the Air Force Contact Center at (800) 616-3775.

Pace: Support ministries vital in Iraq

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, March 29, 2006 – Though training Iraq's warfighters and front-line security forces will remain the top priority, training the cooks, clerks and medics who allow the forces to operate against the enemy is an important part of the equation, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said this week. During a trip to Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, Marine Gen. Peter Pace spoke about establishing the institutions to run Iraq's military. “Priority No. 1 is always going to be training the trigger pullers,” Pace said to reporters traveling with him March 26. “Priority No. 2 is training those who support the trigger pullers, and that's coming.” Logistics is key to ensuring the Iraqi forces can be self-sustaining. This means developing not only the units, but also the acquisition processes for supplies and the expertise to know what to buy and when to buy it. It also requires a system to get

beans and bullets to the warfighters when they are needed. The trigger pullers will control territory, Pace said. Coalition forces have been working to develop the logistics arm of the Iraqi military. “The train-up of those folks should be done by the end of the year,” the chairman said. “We have already begun (setting up) the truck companies and mechanics. (We're training) all the guys and gals that turn the wrenches and sustain the force in a way that they can sustain themselves in the field.” But setting up institutions goes beyond training soldiers to do their military jobs - it means setting up and mentoring the security forces ministries. The Iraqi government must have defense and interior ministries “that have the capacity to make decisions, follow through on those decisions, allocate resources and do things that the sovereign government needs to do to lead and marshal resources,” Pace said. “That's another reason why the stand-up of the government right now is so important. Because who they pick to be prime minister, the minister of defense

and the minister of the interior will have a significant impact on the ability of those institutions to function properly.” Roughly 70 coalition soldiers and civilians are in each ministry, working as partners with their Iraqi counterparts, officials in Baghdad said. They work to build a finance section, a personnel command, a training and doctrine command and so on. The coalition partners are working to ensure the new ministers will be able to choose options when they finally take office. Progress in fielding Iraqi soldiers in fighting battalions has gone well, senior military officials in Baghdad said. The Iraqi army now has 111,000 soldiers configured in more. The generation of these troops and their units is proceeding apace, officials said. Iraqi trainers are the platform instructors in most of the schools, while coalition soldiers mostly serve as mentors. The Iraqi military also is making process in training officers for the military. The Rustamiyah military academy recently graduated 78 new second lieutenants.

Earn up to \$10,000 cash award for IDEA

A suggestion submitted to the Air Force Innovative Development can earn a cash award up to \$10,000. The purpose of the IDEA program is to fight the effects of inflation, right-sizing, lower operating costs and improve productivity through constructive ideas. Participation is open to all appropriated fund civilian employees of the Air Force and all Air Force military members. “The IDEA Program taps into our first and most basic and vital resource, our people – the work-force,” said Ilene Berman, 15th Mission Support Squadron, Manpower-Organization Readiness Flight, Productivity and IDEA program manager. “This is a wonderful opportunity to identify a process that is outdated and no longer the most efficient way of doing business. The IDEA programs slogan is Show us a Better Way.”

The program depends on the Airmen and federal civilian employees that are working first hand with old, outdated processes to challenge the current way, to help the Air Force identify and implement the best possible procedure. According to Ms. Berman, the IDEA Program can be a financially successful way to make changes to any area or process that can become more efficient. Air Force



members who work first-hand with equipment and processes are in the best position to recommend changes. If there is a tangible savings attached to the IDEA, the member can receive an award up to \$10,000. The Hickam’s IDEA program manager believes too many Air Force members may not be aware of the program and the infinite possibilities it offers. “Any idea can be submitted, whether it is directly related to your job and duty or is outside your job responsibility,” said Ms. Berman. The web-based program can be accessed at any military computer and the IDEA office encourages commanders to invite them to their commander’s call and do a quick, but informative brief, answering questions and encouraging all members to speak out and look for better, smarter ways of doing things. People can submit their ideas at <https://ipds.mont.disa.mil>. For more information, call 448-IDEA or visit the IDEA office in building 1105, room 7.



Editor's Note: To read the complete stories and find more Air Force News, go to www.af.mil.

Cope Thunder exercise now Red Flag - Alaska

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – The Air Force chief of staff has announced the Cope Thunder exercise held in Alaska will be renamed and enhanced so it provides complementary training on the same level as the current Red Flag exercise held at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

Red Flag - Alaska coupled with Red Flag - Nellis will provide the Air Force a common set of exercises in multiple locations that have standardized and equal training capabilities.

“Red Flag - Alaska is an Air Force-level exercise that will build on and reinforce air force to air force habitual relationships,” said Gen. T. Michael Moseley. “Making this exercise a Red Flag expands joint training operations and opportunities to improve interoperability with our allies.”

*by Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle
Air Force Print News*

Wind tunnel reaches 3,000-run milestone

ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE, Tenn. (AFPN) – The Arnold Engineering Development Center's Hypervelocity Wind Tunnel 9, located near Silver Spring, Md., recently completed its 3,000th test-run as the facility approaches 30 years of operation. The first test, ironically in support of an Air Force system, occurred in 1976 when the facility was operated by the U.S. Navy as part of the Naval Ordnance Laboratory.

In its early years of operation, Tunnel 9 completed an average of 100 runs per year,

New horizons for Ramstein



Photo by Master Sgt. John E. Lasky

Two C-17 Globemaster IIIs taxi on the busy new ramp while construction of the new hotel continues at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, on Sunday, March 19,

with a record 281 runs in 1985. But technology advancements in more recent years have enabled the team to test more proficiently with fewer runs, saving customers' time and money and providing better data than ever before.

“Today, through the use of powerful computational methods, far fewer, yet highly accurate and more complex, test runs are needed to validate computational fluid dynamics codes,” said AEDC White Oak Site Director Dan Marren.

“With today's more efficient operations, Tunnel 9's expert staff can support about 60 to 80 runs per year, focusing on unique physics-based challenges. This year, Tunnel 9 is running at near maximum capacity for the U.S. Air Force, DARPA, NASA, U.S. Navy and the Missile Defense Agency, and fiscal year 2007

is looking just as productive,” he said.

*by Dan Marren
Arnold Engineering
Development Center Public
Affairs*

Enlisted leader visits Lakenheath

ROYAL AIR FORCE LAKENHEATH, England (AFPN) – As threats against the United States evolve, Airmen can expect the Air Force to evolve as well.

During his visit to Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray talked about the Air Force evolution and the initiatives leadership is taking to modernize the Air Force and its Airmen.

“We've changed in the past, and we are going to continue

2006. The 350-room billeting is slated to open in September as part of the Kaiserslautern Military Community Center.

to undergo change in the future,” Chief Murray said. “We've always been an evolving force.”

He also spoke about ways the Air Force will adapt over the next five years. As new technology and new equipment are introduced, Airmen will see a reduction in the personnel structure. Some Air Force specialty codes will realign, some will decrease and some will grow to meet demands.

“We have some numbers floating out there that indicate in the next five years we may be 40,000 less Airmen than we are today,” he said. “Toward the summer, I think we'll be able to give the Air Force a clearer snapshot about where we want to go with that.”

*by Senior Airman Vanessa Young
48th Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

Ramstein's transformation

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFPN) – Parts of this hectic airlift hub are still under construction as the historic base transforms into the Air Force's European super base.

The work is part of the Department of Defense's largest ongoing construction project – a \$500 million boon for the base near Kaiserslautern, said Col. Carlos Cruz-Gonzalez, commander of the 435th Civil Engineer Group.

“The construction going on now is a continuation of the Rhein-Main Transition Program,” the colonel from Bayamon, Puerto Rico, said.

The transition program resulted from a U.S.-German accord to return Rhein-Main

Air Base, outside of Frankfurt, back to Germany by the end of 2005. In return, Germany allowed the Air Force to replicate the base's vital airlift mission at Ramstein and Spangdahlem Air Base, 80 miles northwest of here.

German agencies agreed to foot most of the bill for 37 new construction projects that would allow the bases to take on the new mission. Ramstein got 32 of the projects.

The breakdown of funds was \$200 million for transition-related military construction, \$200 million for the Kaiserslautern Military Community Center and \$100 million for new military family housing.

*by Louis A. Arana-Barradas
Air Force Print News*

AF trailblazers Hall of Fame inductees

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AFPN) – Three Air Force trailblazers were among the five women inducted into the Women in Aviation, International, Pioneer Hall of Fame here March 25. An audience of more than 2,000 witnessed the induction of retired officers – Maj. Gen. Jeanne Holm, Maj. Gen. Betty Mullis and Lt. Col. Betty Jane Williams.

The ceremony and banquet marked the conclusion of the 17th Annual International Women in Aviation Conference. The Pioneer Hall of Fame, established in 1992, honors women who have made significant contributions to aviation. The women, considered record-setters and innovators, are also known as mentors, opening the doors of opportunity to other women. Such is the case with this year's award winners.

*by Annette Crawford
Air Force Print News*

See AROUND, A6

AROUND,

From A5

Japanese Airmen intern with NCOs

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan (AFPN) – Could something as simple as tying engine wires by hand instead of by tool bring two allies closer together? For Staff Sgt. Aiko Koba and Senior Airman Airica Velazquez, it means gaining a greater appreciation for what they do for their respective air force.

Sergeant Koba is one of seven Japan Air Self-Defense Force noncommissioned officers on duty here since March 13 as part of the U.S. Air Force-JASDF Bilateral Exchange Program. Each of them works alongside a Kadena NCO in a similar career field during the 10-day program.

*by Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Fidler
18th Wing Public Affairs*

NTISR enhance awareness

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN) – An armed F-16 Fighting Falcon is “watching” the road below for the convoys rolling through a dangerous land. The concept of using fighter aircraft equipped with targeting pods to monitor the battlespace is known as non-traditional intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, or NTISR.

Air Force NTISR operations began only four years ago and are the result of increased demand for complete battle-

space awareness. With the production and development of traditional ISR capabilities struggling to keep pace, leveraging fighters, bombers, and air mobility aircraft in a similar role is helping ensure information dominance.

*by Staff Sgt. Melissa Koskovich
U.S. Central Command Air Forces-Forward Public Affairs*

U-2 maintainers boast hot record

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN) – In the world of sports, there have been some incredible streaks. Cal Ripken Jr. played in 2,632 consecutive major league baseball games. Lance Armstrong was victorious in seven Tour de France races. Football great Johnny Unitas threw at least one touchdown pass in 47 straight games.

But none of these streaks compare to the impact that one unit is having on the war on terrorism. The 99th Aircraft Maintenance Unit is working on a streak of more than 155 consecutive launches without a maintenance-related cancel to meet the air tasking order for the U-2 “Dragon Lady.” What this means is commanders on the ground are getting the most accurate information they need to plan and operate.

*by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Leonhard
380th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs*

535th AS supports OIF



Courtesy photo

Troops scheduled for R & R are flown on the first Pacific Air Forces operational C-17 combat mission by aircrew members from 535th Airlift Squadron. Seven aircrew members from the 535th took part in the mission from

March 5 to 20. The mission included transporting passengers and cargo with stops into the Baghdad Iraq, and other locations within the theater in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

AFAF, From A1

families assigned to Hickam. First Lieutenant Nicole Wells, Kenney Headquarters Group Project officer, emphasized that unit representatives have been extremely helpful in this year’s campaign. “It’s an amazing feeling to know that you are part of such a great team,” said Second Lieutenant Josh Aultman, Team Hickam AFAF Project officer.

Hickam is the 13 base in the Air Force to surpass their goal, but started later than many of the other bases who also have achieved this feat. Total contributions for AFAF at AF level equates to \$2.54 million being raised to-date. Group Project Officers have been working hard and are available if you have any questions. They are as follows; 15th Airlift Wing asso-

ciated offices, Capt. Gordon Bryant; 15th Medical Group, Tech. Sgt. Renata Sutton; 15th Maintenance Group, 2nd Lt. Chenell Hunter; 15th Mission Support Group, 1st Lt. Heather Leite; 15th Operations Group, 1st Lt. Carson Dodds; Kenney Headquarters, 1st Lt. Nichole Wells and TSgt. Jeff Kelly; Hickam Tenant Units, 1st Lt. Gerald Kemp; Pacific Air

Forces, Master Sgt. Terry Gilyard and MSgt. Brad Harris; Pacific Command, SSgt. Yvette Prioleau and the Air National Guard, SSgt. Peni Sabagala and SSgt. Lorna Suzo. The campaign ends on April 11. Please contact Staff Sergeant John Carlton at 449-1704, or 2nd Lt. Josh Aultman at 449-3507, for questions about this year’s Campaign.

RAIN, From A1

This particular weather system has been active for two and a half weeks. The March rainfall record for Honolulu was set in 1951 totaling 20.79 inches.

“This month alone between the first and the twenty-third we’ve gotten 7.29 inches of rain, slightly above average, but far shy of the record,” said Airmen Stevens.

“Usually it doesn’t last this long, it only sticks around about a week,” said 1st Lt. Tara Lipinski, 17th OWS. “March typically starts drying out though, usually our wettest months are from November to February.”

It seems it is not going to stop, for what the Combat Weather Team can tell right now. It is going to keep raining next week, because the Kona Lows position remains unchanged and hasn’t released its hold.

The CWT who revealed the contemptible culprit of this rain is a five-person crew that supports Hickam. They’ve been operational since December in order to maintain the increased need for localized weather support.

“We are a weather flight falling under the weather squadron,” said Lieutenant Lipinski. “We do all the nitty-gritty weather stuff, briefings that they need and now with the C-17’s coming in we support them and all the Guard flying units here.”

The CWT supports the 15th Airlift Wing and all its tenant units strictly on a local level.

“We are here for Hickam and if they have any weather concerns or need briefings,” said Lieutenant Lipinski. “We are open 24 hours, Monday through Friday, rotating on weekends based on flight.”

The CWT is strictly for official use only. They do not supply golf or beach forecasts.

“We produce a daily flying forecast



Photo by Angela Elbern

Capt. John Ramsey, 535th Airlift Squadron receives a flight weather briefing from Staff Sgt. Ian Byczkowski, 17th Operations Weather Squadron before a routine C-17 training mission Tuesday. The 17th OWS briefs air crews 24/7 on current weather patterns in the Pacific region.

for all the flying units on base,” said Lieutenant Lipinski. “Basically we use satellite and radar, any kind of forecast model data, trends from the last few days and then we use climatology and put all that together to get a forecast.”

“It is an educated guess,” concluded Tech. Sgt. Rod Jacobs, 17th OWS. “It is kind of like a big jigsaw puzzle, you’ve got a whole bunch of pieces, the satellite, radar, you put all these pieces into one thing placing the puzzle together and that can put out your forecast.”

7 DAY OUTLOOK

Sat. 81/70	Mostly clouds with scattered showers and isolated T-storms
Sun. 81/69	Mostly clouds with scattered showers and isolated T-storms
Mon. 81/69	Partly cloudy with isolated showers
Tues. 81/68	Partly cloudy with isolated showers
Wed. 81/67	Partly cloudy with isolated showers
Thur. 81/67	Partly cloudy with isolated showers

ALS, From A3

The graduates of ALS Class 06-B are:

15 AEROMEDICAL-DENTAL SQ

Tenika Ashley

15 AIRCRAFT

MAINTENANCE SQ

Benjamin Mainwaring

David Smith

15 AIRLIFT WING

Sarah Kinsman

15 CIVIL ENGINEER SQ

Daniel Cruz

Matthew Dennison

Heather Rinus

Eric D. Spencer

15 COMMUNICATIONS SQ

Mathew Forster

Jeffery Harris

R. Keith Hopson

Derrick Martinez

Daniel Raynes

15 MAINTENANCE

OPERATIONS SQ

Royce Kaufman

15 MAINTENANCE SQ

Jon Pack

Bryan Racca

Dorsey Souza

15 MEDICAL SUPPORT SQ

Samuel McAnally

15 OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQ

Brandon Benton

17 OPERATIONAL

WEATHER SQ

Timothy Scanlin

25 AIR SUPPORT

OPERATIONS SQ

Michael Oser

56 AIR OPERATIONS SQ

Sherresa Lasseter

56 AIR & SPACE

COMMUNICATIONS SQ

Mario Mantripp

65 AIRLIFT SQ

Jenny Fritcher

324 INTELLIGENCE SQ

Summer Brock

Christopher Burch

Iris Figueroa

Anthony Florentine

Tei Kue

Lee Malard

Kyle Mayer

Catherine Nevins

Brian Osborn

Rebecca Richardson

Cathy Williams

Bradley Young

352 INFORMATION

OPERATIONS SQ

Kristoffer Abalos

David Wheeler

502 AIR OPERATIONS SQ

Charles Hutchens

535 AIRLIFT SQ

Michelle Kosanko

735 AIR MOBILITY SQ

Mark Dean

Stephan Matthews

Jake Penz

Eric VanHorn

JOINT INTELLIGENCE CENTER

PACIFIC

Jesse Shippy

PACAF AIR INTELLIGENCE SQ

Daniel DeLeo

Jeremy Dyck

Timothy Hughes

PACAF COMPUTER

SYSTEMS SQ

Michael Leonard

PACAF REGIONAL SUPPLY SQ

Michael Addams

PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE

Noel Alarcon

Medardo Pureza

Cesar Soloria

Raymond Tamaray

Randillie Tullao

Team Hickam History

The Air Force’s most historic airfield

April 1, 1967 – The “PACAF Base Command” designation was terminated; and the 6486th ABW Commander no longer commanded the 326th Air Division, which was reassigned directly to HQ PACAF.

April 1, 1992 – As part of the objective wing reorganization, the 15th Operations Group was established and

April 3, 1961 – Official opening of the Par-3 Golf Course at Hickam AFB was held with a Pro-Am (Professional-Amateur) Tournament. The Base Engineers received a great deal of voluntary help from both officers and airmen during construction of the course. An old barracks building was renovated for use as a clubhouse.

April 3, 1979 – The first of 63 contractor-operated aircraft carrying Vietnamese refugees bound for the Continental U.S. and worldwide resettlement was serviced and refueled at Hickam AFB.

April 5, 1945 – PVT Sadao S. Munemori, 100th Infantry Battalion, redesignated Hawaiian Guard unit in 100th Battalion/442d Regiment Combat Team, earns Medal of Honor in Italy; first for Japanese Americans.

April 6, 1975 – Beginning April 6, 1975 and continuing to Sept. 30, 1975, members of the 15 ABW fed, sheltered, and moved 93,987 orphans, refugees and evacuees from Southeast Asia to the Continental United States, out of a total of 130,000 refugees authorized by Congress. In addition to Hickam AFB, Wake Island was used as a staging area for the refugees.

NOTES, From A1

Training will be held on Tuesday at Nelles Chapel Annex at 9:30 a.m. All active duty, reserve and guard USAF members and civilian employees who have not attended this mandated training are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Capt. Samantha Haberlach at 449-7272. This is an open call, no need to sign up.

Spring 2006 term registration – To register for the spring 2006 term visit the Force Development Flight (The Education Office). Registration for Apr. 3 through June 12 spring term is going on now. Stop by Hangar 2 for class schedules and other information. Active duty members can do their tuition assistance on-line through the AF Portal. If you have questions you can call 449-6363 or contact the individual schools directly.

Shake up your Saturday morning routine – The National Multiple Sclerosis Society Hawaii Division’s 2006 MS Walk is Apr. 8 at McCoy Pavilion, Ala Moana Beach Park. To sign up or for more information call the Hawaii division of the National MS Society at 532-0806 or log onto www.nationalmssociety.org. To volunteer to help out during the event call MSgt. Tom Hodson at 449-0066.

Wayland Baptist University – Wayland Baptist University offers Associate, Bachelor and Master’s Degree in a variety of programs. Registration for the spring term is going on right now; classes will start Wednesday. Classes are offered in three week, five week or 10 week sessions. For more information, stop by WBU’s office in Hangar 2, rooms 116 and 119.or visit the Web site at www.wbu.edu/hi or call 422-6777.

Summer Opportunity for High School Students – The Honolulu post of Society of American Military Engineers will sponsor two high school students to attend this educational and leadership-forging camp at the U.S. Air Force Academy. SAME’s annual week-long Engineering and Construction Camps provide a hands-on learning experience for high school sophomores, juniors and selected seniors who are interested in pursuing careers in architecture, engineering or construction. For more information, contact Capt. Sang Lee, 15 CES, at sang.lee@hickam.af.mil for more information.

Hickam National Test Center – The National Test Center offers College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams to all members of the Department of Defense and their families. CLEP exams are free to active duty, reserves, guard, and family members of the guard and reserve forces. For all others, there is a \$20 administration fee and \$55 examination fee. The National Test Center on Hickam will offer exams on Mondays and Wednesdays, conducting three test sessions each day. Please call Hawaii Pacific University at 422-1032 to schedule an exam.

National Volunteer Week Recognition Program – The Airman and Family Readiness Flight is accepting volunteer nominations for the Hickam National Volunteer Week Recognition Program. Award categories are as follows: Volunteer Family, Spouse, Youth, Unit or Directorate, Community or Nonprofit Agency, Hickam Community Volunteer, and Air Force Volunteer Excellence Award. Nominations are taken until April 7. For additional information, contact the AFRF at 449-0300.

DoD announces four new Dacowits members

The Department of Defense announced March 22 the selection of a new chairperson and three 2006 appointees to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS). Dr. Mary Nelson of Lafayette, Colo., is the new chairperson, and the three new appointees are: Diana Destine Denman of San Antonio and Denise W. Balzano and Margaret M. White, both of McLean, Va.

The committee provides the Department of Defense, through the principal deputy under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness, with advice and recommendations on matters and policies relating to the recruitment and retention, family issues and the treatment, employment, integration and well-being of women in the armed forces.

The committee members represent a distribution of demography, professional career fields, community service and geography and are selected on the basis of their experience in the military, as a member of a military family, or with women's or family-related workforce issues.

They perform a variety of duties including, visiting at least two military installations each year, conducting a review and evaluation of current research on military women and family issues and developing an annual report with recommendations on these issues to service leaders and the Secretary of Defense.